**Innovation for Our Energy Future** 

# Renewable Energy Technology Opportunities: Responding to Global Energy Challenges

**Presented at Clean-Tech Investors Summit** 

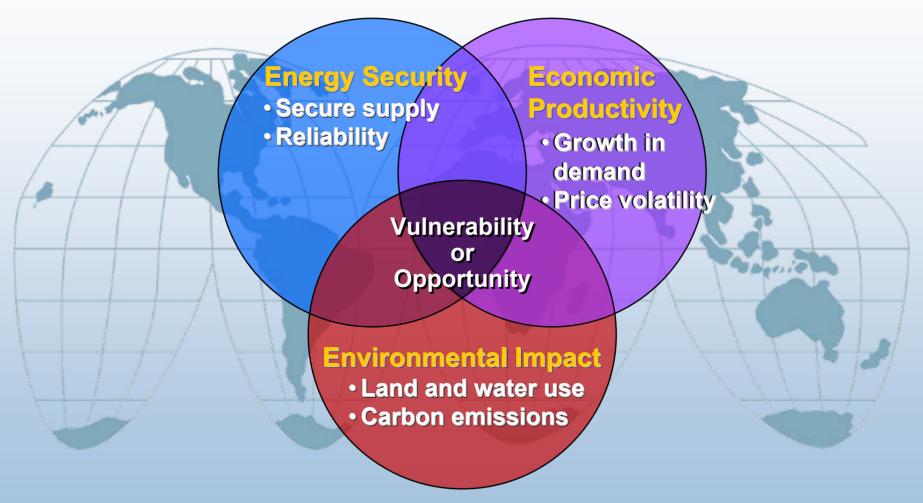
**January 23, 2007** 

Dan E. Arvizu

Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory



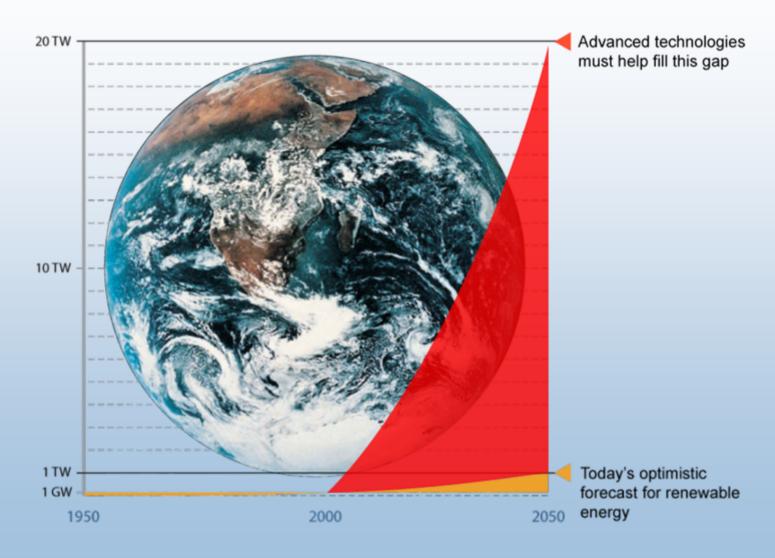
# **Energy Solutions Are Enormously Challenging**



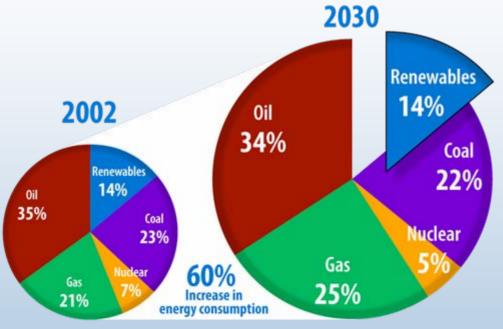
Must address all three imperatives

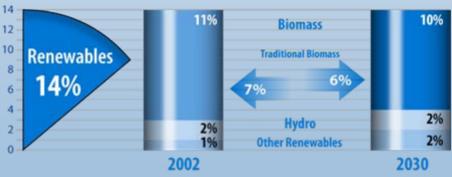


## **How Big is the Challenge?**



# World Energy Supply and the Role of Renewable Energy

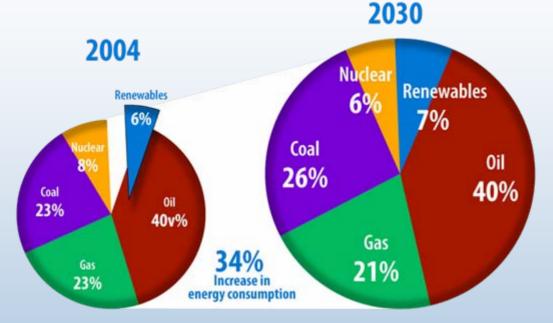


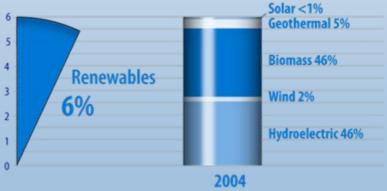


Source: OECD/IEA, 2004



# U.S. Energy Consumption and the Role of Renewable Energy

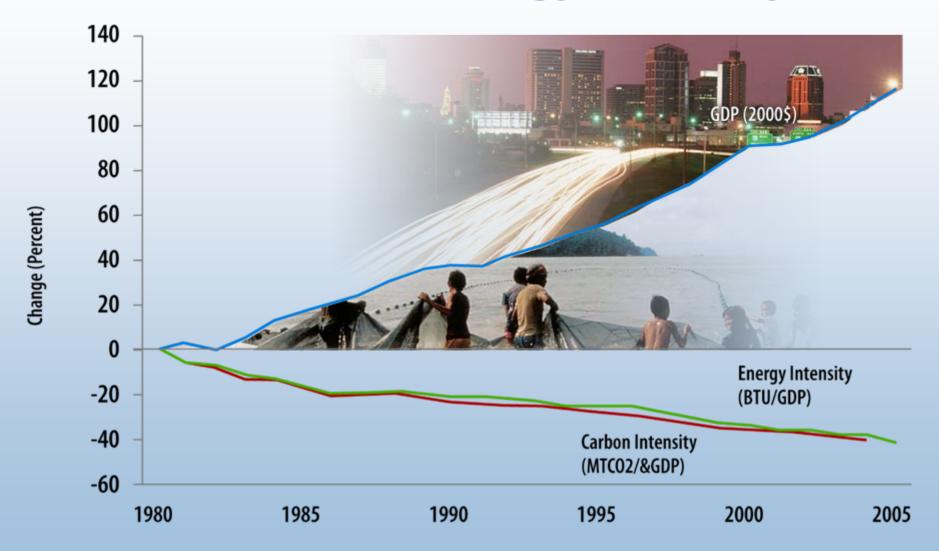




Source: Energy Information Administration, Annual Energy Outlook 2006, Table D4



## **Carbon and Energy Intensity**



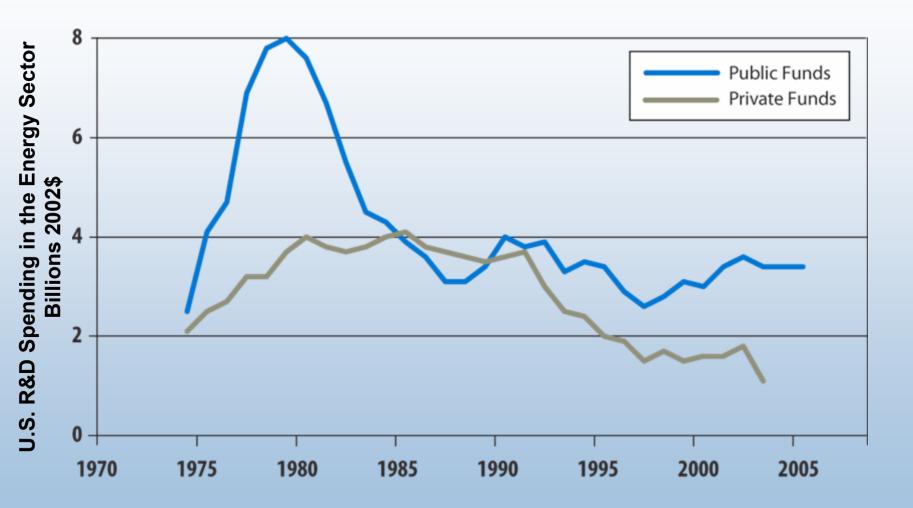
# Thinking Differently... Account for Externalities

- Today's energy marketplace does not appropriately "value" certain public objectives or social goods, instead we have:
  - Price volatility
  - Serious environmental impacts
  - Underinvestment in energy innovation





## **Declining Energy R&D Investments...**



Source: Daniel Kammen, Gregory Nemet Reversing the Incredible, Shrinking Energy R&D Budget
Table 10.3, Edition 25, Transportation Energy Data Book <a href="http://cta.ornl.gov/data/chapter10.shtml">http://cta.ornl.gov/data/chapter10.shtml</a>

Introduction Energy Nemet Reversing the Incredible, Shrinking Energy R&D Budget

Table 10.3, Edition 25, Transportation Energy Data Book 

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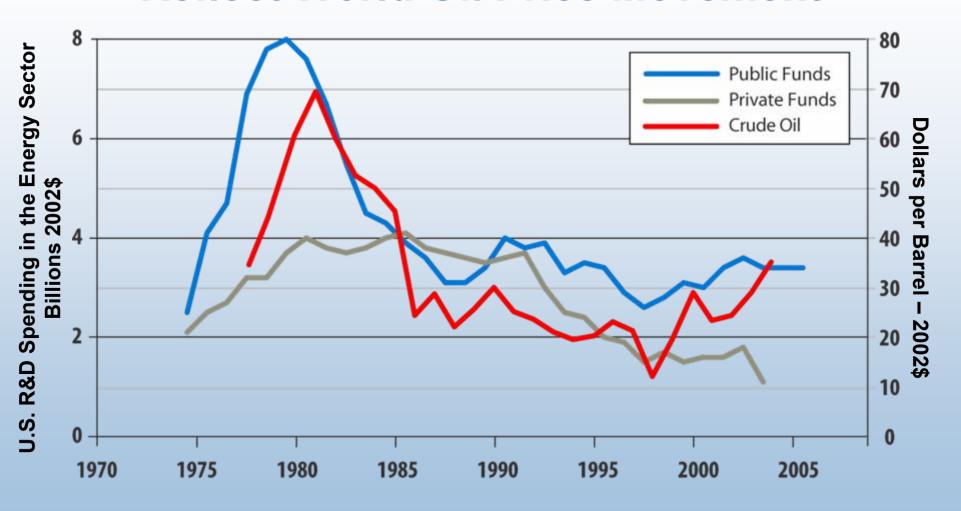
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Table 10.3, Edition 25, Transportation Energy Laboratory

# Declining Energy R&D Investments... Reflect World Oil Price Movement



Source: Daniel Kammen, Gregory Nemet Reversing the Incredible, Shrinking Energy R&D Budget
Table 10.3, Edition 25, Transportation Energy Data Book <a href="http://cta.ornl.gov/data/chapter10.shtml">http://cta.ornl.gov/data/chapter10.shtml</a>

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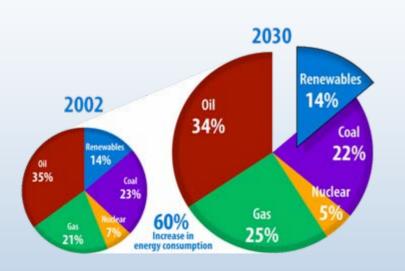
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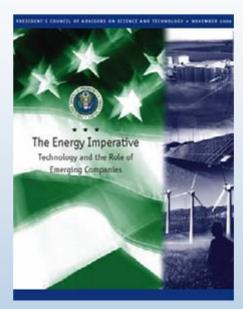
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# World Energy Supply and the Role of Renewable Energy





"...in the foreseeable future, the share of non-hydroelectric renewable electricity generation in the U.S. could grow to 10% or more by 2030 and to over 20% by midcentury."

**PCAST Nov 2006** 

"Yes if" ... not... "no because."

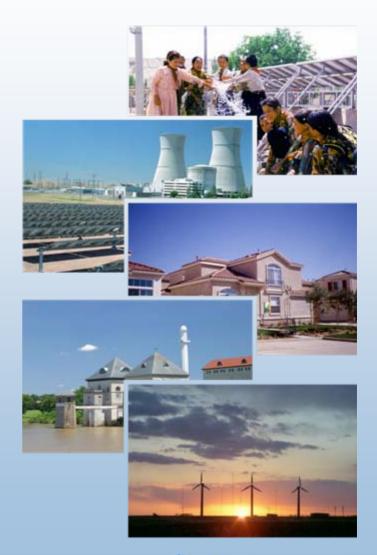
- Newt Gingrich

Source: OECD/IEA, 2004



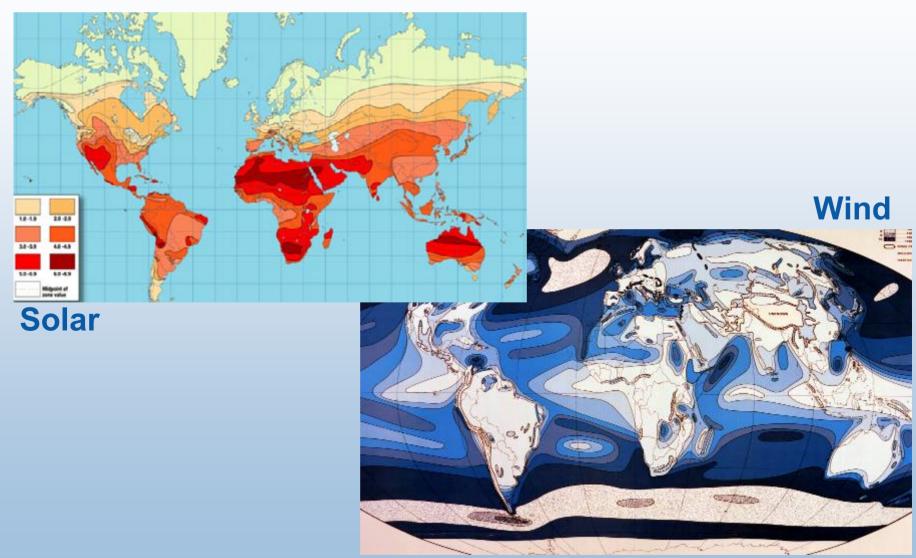
# Technology-Based Solutions: There is no single or simple answer

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Nonpolluting transportation fuels
- Separation and sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Next generation nuclear energy technologies
- Transition to distributed energy systems coupled with pollution-free energy carriers





## **Global Resources are Plentiful**



Source: <a href="http://howto.altenergystore.com/Reference-Materials/Solar-Insolation-Map-World/a43/">http://howto.altenergystore.com/Reference-Materials/Solar-Insolation-Map-World/a43/</a>
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

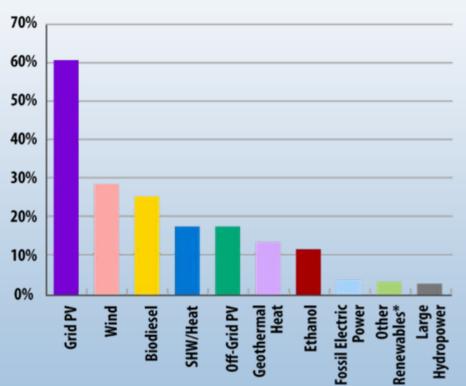
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

# **Impressive Cost Reductions**

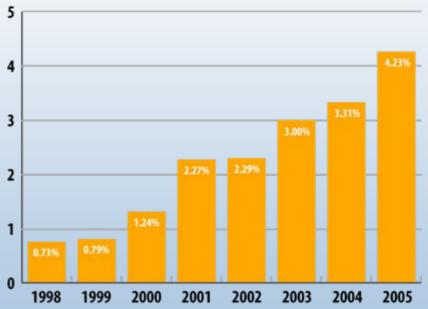


## **Investing in the Future**

#### Global Renewable Energy Annual Growth Rates 2000-2004



# **Energy-Tech Investments Percent of Total U.S. Venture Capital**



Sources: Renewables 2005 Global Status Report, REN21 Clean Energy Trends 2006, Nth Power LLC



## Getting to "Significance" Involves...



Source: NREL

# Consistent Policies are Required for Long-Term Market Growth

- National goals
  - Biofuels: 30% of gasoline by 2030
  - Wind: 20% of electricity generation by 2030
  - Solar: Be market competitive by 2015 for Solar PV
- Infrastructure investments required to meet these goals, for example:
  - Biofuels: 30x30 analysis estimated infrastructure cost between \$8.5 and \$28.5B over 23 years



# **Aging Energy Infrastructure**







# **Technology Innovation Challenges**

- Wind
  - Next generation wind turbines
    - Improve energy capture by 30%
    - Decrease capital costs by 25%
- Solar photovoltaics
  - Improved performance through
    - process improvements
    - better materials
    - concentration
  - Harnessing nanostructures & new quantum effects
- Biofuels
  - Next generation biofuels
    - New feedstocks
    - Improved energy crops
    - Integrated biorefineries





## Wind

#### Today's Status in U.S.

- 11,603 MW installed at end of 2006
- Cost 6-9¢/kWh at good wind sites\*

#### **DOE Cost Goals**

- 3.6¢/kWh, onshore at low wind sites by 2012
- 7¢/kWh, offshore in shallow water by 2014

#### **Long Term Potential**

20% of the nation's electricity supply

#### **NREL Research Thrusts**

- Improved performance and reliability
- Distributed wind technology
- Advanced rotor development
- Utility grid integration

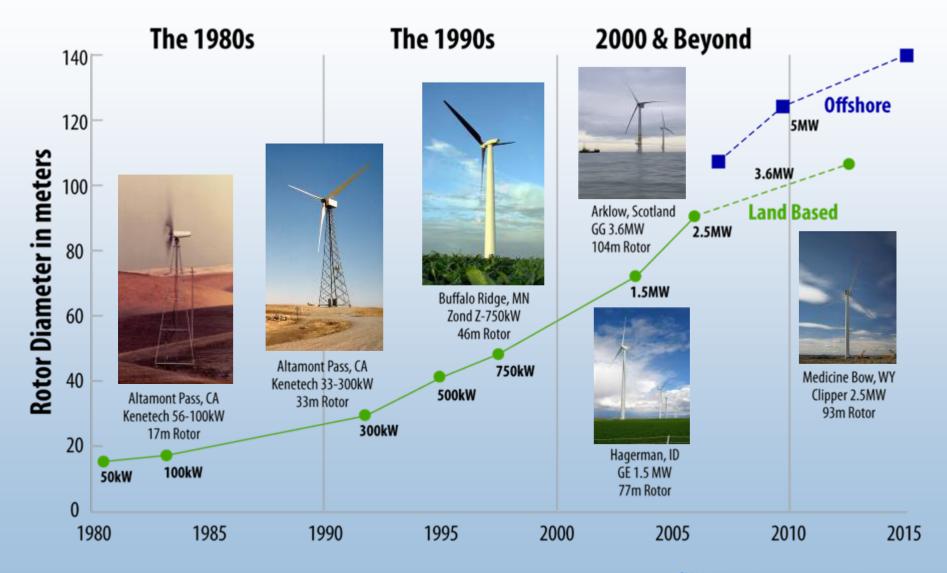








## **Evolution of U.S. Commercial Wind Energy**



## Solar

#### **Photovoltaics and Concentrating Solar Power**

#### Status in U.S.

#### PV

- 526 MW
- Cost 18-23¢/kWh

#### **CSP**

- 355 MW
- Cost 12¢/kWh

#### **Potential:**

#### PV

- 11-18¢/kWh by 2010
- 5-10 ¢/kWh by 2015

#### **CSP**

8.5 ¢/kWh by 2010 6 ¢/kWh by 2015



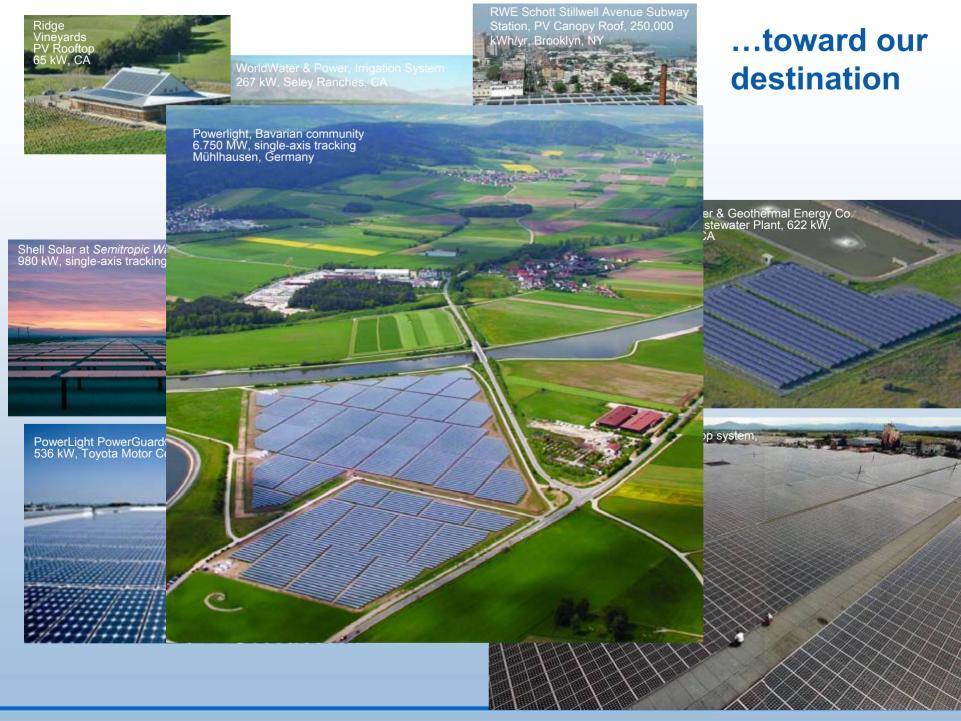
#### PV

- Partnering with industry
- Higher efficiency devices
- New nanomaterials applications
- Advanced manufacturing techniques

#### **CSP**

- Next generation solar collectors
- High performance storage
   National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Source: U.S. Department of Energy, IEA Updated November 8, 2006



### **Biofuels**

#### **Current Biofuels status**

- Biodiesel 91 million gallons<sup>1</sup> (2005)
- Corn ethanol (Nov. 2006)
  - 106 commercial plants<sup>2</sup>
  - 5.1 billion gallon/yr. capacity<sup>2</sup>
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Q 2006 rack price highly variable \$3.50 – 5.50/gallon of gasoline equivalent (gge)<sup>3</sup>
- Cellulosic ethanol
  - Projected commercial cost ~\$3.50/gge

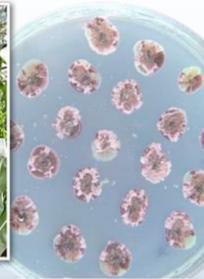
#### **Key DOE Goals**

- 2012 goal: cellulosic ethanol ~\$1.62/gge
- 2030 goal: 60 billion gal ethanol (30% of 2004 gasoline)

#### **NREL Research Thrusts**

- The biorefinery and cellulosic ethanol
- Solutions to under-utilized waste residues
- Energy crops





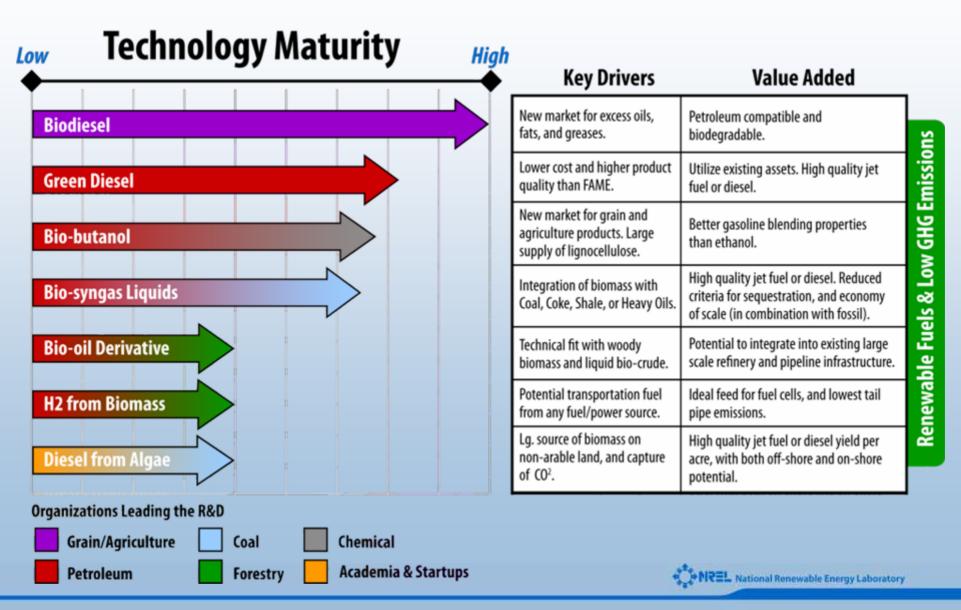








## **Biofuels R&D**



## **Technology Investment Pathways**



# Promise of renewable energy is profound and can be realized if we...

- Aggressively seek a global sustainable energy economy
- Accelerate investment in technology innovation
- Acknowledge and mitigate the carbon challenge with the necessary policies

It is a matter of national will and leadership

